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3337 '99 SEP 17 AID 01

Sept 10, 1999

Attn: Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)

Food and Drug Administration

5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061

Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Docket Numbers 98N-1239; 96P-0418; 97P-0197


The FDA was petitioned in April 1988 to ban forced molting. For the following reasons this petition should be granted without any further delay:

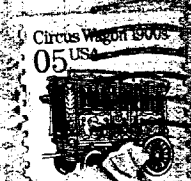
- Bacteria warning labels should be placed on egg cartons, and FDA should do more to implement this and to regulate refrigeration temperatures.
- The practice of forced molting should be prohibited by FDA because it has been proven scientifically to promote disease by destroying the starling hens' immune systems.
- FDA has the jurisdiction to ban farm practices that threaten human health.
- Cruelty and contamination are linked. Therefore FDA must ban forced molting of laying hens because it is a major cause of infectious diseases in hens, eggs and consumers of eggs.

Very truly yours,

Lois N. Cox
96P-0418

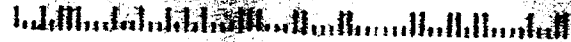
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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C618

See Docket Number/Item Code: 97P-0197/C619
96P-0418/C618